Aug 1973

2p

# The MESSENGER

## THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

August 1973

Dear Friends,

At the risk of being boring and perhaps unpopular, I would like to talk to all, who month by month read the "Messenger", about Money; the lack of it in our two churches.

We all know only too well that it costs more to live nowadays, and every shopping expedition is fast becoming a nightmare, but still, life must go on; and the life of our two churches must go on as well in the face of ever increasing expenditure.

If our church is to continue, and I don't doubt for one moment that it should, because I believe we have a great future before us, we should I feel take a fresh look at our giving in order that our work may continue to expand.

Could we possibly have more contributors within our Free Will Offering Scheme? This is a great way to make a regular week by week contribution, and perhaps consider in more depth the Covenant Giving Plan.

I appeal to you all most sincerely to review within the next few weeks your giving pattern, and trust you will consider an increase, so that our work together will not be stifled by lack of income.

Please think it over!

Your sincere friend,

Allan Roberts

ACTIVE GOODNESS.....Prayer for the World

....I didn't come to have servants looking after me
I came to be a servant myself and to give myself
to make everybody else free.
...(Mark 10: 45 Dale)

Pray for those who serve at points of particular tension,
in areas of natural disaster,
in refugee camps,
where racial conflict is hard and bitter,
where people live in corrosive poverty,
where there is open industrial struggle.
Lord, may the power of your love be known
in healing and rebuilding.

Pray for those who work in welfare organisations of all kinds
in our locality,
in our cities,
national organisations,
international agencies.
Lord, may the power of your love be known
in healing and rebuilding.

Give thanks for those who in ordinary ways
and seemingly anonymous lives
maintain the fabric of our common life,
whose lives are alight with integrity,
generosity, compassion and understanding.

.....Prayer Fellowship Handbook 1973

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IN MEMORIAM

EDITH PICKUP, of Bentgate Street, Newhey,
a member of St. Stephen's

and

GRAHAM WOOD, of Sykes St., Newhey,

Our sympathy is extended to both families in their recent loss.

CONGRATULATIONS To:

Mr. & Mrs. J. Rothwell of 31 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow, on the birth of a son on 28th June.

SILVER AND GOLD

BELATED BEST WISHES to Littleborough Church Secretary and Mrs. SIMPSON who celebrated their Silver Wedding on July 31st.

GOOD WISHES to Mr. & Mrs. FRANK BEATTIE who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 18th August. Yes, it's 50 years since he left "Cheese and Loaf" and St. Stephen's for the sunnier climes of Littleborough. We are sure there are some at Milnrow who remember.

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FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Aug. 5 "Foundation for Life"
Matthew 7: 24 - 29

12 "Christian Brotherhood"
Romans 12: 9-10; 16 -21

19 "The joy of His Friendship"
John 15: 11 - 21

26 "A Pattern for Life"
Matthew 5: 1 - 10

## ON THE CARPET

The Creche department, who have recently moved into fresh accommodation at the back of the hall, would like to say thank you for a couple of gifts they have received. Thanks go to their elder brothers and sisters in the Primary Department who have made a lovely scrap book and presented it to the creche, and to Mr. Roberts who has given a carpet for their new 'home'.

## MODELLING THROUGH

The following are model children: Stephen Jackson, Susan Jackson, Michelle Roberts, Deborah Smith, Gillian Rothwell, Janet Law and Valerie Fursey. This is not to say that all the other children in our Junior Church are scoundrels or, for that matter, that the above are always of impeccable behaviour. It simply means that the aforementioned modelled clothes at the seconds Fashion Show and Sale in May. This event, organised by the Women's Guild was very well supported.

## "AND WHEN SHE GOT THERE....."

The Women's Guild recently had a "slap up do" at a place with the unlikely name of "Mother Hubbards."

Not to make any bones about it, Mother Hubbards is near Bradford and it was on June 5th that 45 Ladies made the trip there on their summer outing.

The weather was very pleasant and once the cupboard had been emptied the girls proceeded on a coach trip round the Dales. Mother Goose was not on the menu.

## "A BIT OF A STRAIN"

"Will ladies responsible for making tea kindly empty tea pots and kettles, then stand upside down in the sink."

.....Notice in a Nottinghamshire church hall

RALLY

The Rev. Mrs. Jean Payne of Ogden Baptist Church, spoke at the annual rally of the Women's Guild which took place on July 10th. Mrs. Edith Gillon welcomed Mrs. Payne and the ladies from other churches in the district.

The choir was led by Mrs. Audrey Baines and the soloist was Mrs. Cynthia Hey. Mr. Arthur Clegg played the organ. We are indeed fortunate to have such a wealth of talent in our church.

Refreshments were served afterwards in the school. Our thanks are extended to all ladies who helped in any way and to our lone male accompanist.

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RAIN DIDN'T STOP PLAY

The weather was not as it ought to have been on the 15th July when our Garden Party, scheduled for 14 Heaton Street had to held in the covered accommodation of the schoolroom.

However, the crowds, like the rain, came in a steady flow and the £23 profit which accrued helped to compensate for our not being able to amble across those gracious lawns of the garden designed by Capability Baines. There was an eager willingness to participate in the various games of skill such as skittles, roll-a-penny, beat-the-buzzer and egg-examining, and for the less feckless there was a pleasant afternoon tea. Our thanks go to those who, despite the bleak weather, worked so hard to make this event a great success.

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ADVERTISEMENT in the Properties for Sale column:

"Chapel suitable for conversion. All main services."

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT ST. STEPHEN'S:

EACH MONDAY - Until further notice
There will be a WHIST DRIVE in the schoolroom at 7.30 p.m.
Admission 10p.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th:
"GIFT DAY" and Afternoon Tea - with 'Floor Show'

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10th:
C.W.S. BAND at Roch ValleySchool.
This has to be a "sell out."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th:
A CHRISTMAS AFAYRE in the schoolroom.
If you still have a holiday to come, please remember a gift for the 'Holiday Gift Stall.'

The church spire climbs high,
Right up to the sky,
I wonder why.

I think I know
It is to show
The way our thoughts should go.

## FIGHTING TALK

"MAN is by far the cruellest of all animals. Our viciousness shows in our everyday gestures.

Think about it a moment: We beat eggs. We whip cream. We strike bargains. We blind others to the truth. We kill with a look. We violate rules. We bury our secret lives. And all the while, we are just trying to kill time."

## N.E. MANCHESTER - WOMEN'S RALLY

Please note that the first Women's Rally of the new District will be held at King Street U.R. Church, Oldham on Wednesday, 12th September, at 7.45 p.m.

Will all ladies who are interested please contact Mrs. C. Clough, so that transport can be arranged.

Further details will be issued to Guild secretaries in due course.

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## APPEAL

A group of ladies in Shaw serve coffee just off Market Street, Shaw, each Saturday morning from 10.00 to 12.00 in aid of handicapped children in the area. Funds go to purchase wheelchairs, walking aids and other special equipment together with specially constructed articles for play.

Help is always needed in the coffee bar.

Green Sheild stamps are used to obtain equipment. Special trading terms are afforded this group. Have you any surplus?
Edith Gillon will be pleased to receive your gifts and give further details of the project.

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**FOR THE ATTENTION OF BOTH CHURCHES**

**SEPTEMBER MESSENGER!**

In view of the annual holidays of the editor the September issue will again be edited by Mrs. D. Emmott, to whom all material for this edition should be submitted by **16th AUGUST.**

.....(6 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow.)

## LITTLEBOROUGH NEWS

### WE HELP PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW

During our last session in the Primary Department, one of our lessons had the above title. To illustrate this theme the story was about Gladys Aylward, the wonderful lady who went out to China as a missionary to help hundreds of boys and girls in her children's home.

After the story the children made cards with a message inside saying we had prayed for the sick and the lonely that day. They then signed their names on the cards and they were sent to Birch Hill Hospital to be distributed to the patients who did not receive any letters or cards normally.

The children received many wonderful letters in reply. Here is just one of them:

"Dear Debbie,

Just a few lines in appreciation of the beautiful card I received from you. It was a lovely gesture and when I go home on Monday your card will go with me to be treasured always.

My grateful thanks to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. A. Greenhalgh

(c/o Pennine Ward)"

The cards gave great joy to the patients and the children were thrilled to receive their letters in reply. Not only did we try to encourage those we do do not know but by replying to the cards, the patients encouraged our children with the work that they do in Junior Church.

### WE NEED HELP TOO

A teacher is urgently required for our Juniors aged 7-8. If you feel that you can help please have a word with Mr. Simpson about it.

## A REIGHT GOOD SEND OFF

Once again the ladies of the Guild enjoyed a visit from Mrs. M. Lord of the Edwin Waugh Society, and she delighted us with her dialect poems and stories. The meeting, early in July, was presided over by Mrs. C. Hill and Mrs. Cockcroft was the pianist. The Guild Secretary, Mrs. Stott, was kept busy receiving monies for the forthcoming trip, and Mrs. Lord and Mrs. Holt served the refreshments.

At this meeting we were very sorry to hear that Mrs. Audrey Wall is leaving our fellowship at Littleborough to go into business at Blackpool. Audrey has been a faithful church and Guild member. Formerly a Primary teacher, she has latterly assumed responsibility for the Creche in a most conscientious manner. Always ready and willing to assist in church activities, she has been a most valued helper in the tea room at the Autumn Fair and on any occasion which required a "brew." We shall miss her greatly but we wish her and her husband every success in their new venture, and hope that she will soon associate herself with one of the Blackpool Churches. We also wish to mention Robert, now 17, formerly a member of the Junior Church and still a worshipper, and 10 year old Patricia, a regular attender at church and Pilots. Good Luck! Good Health! and God Bless you all!

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With the departure of Mrs. Wall we have two vacant dates on the flower rota. If you would like to make an offering of flowers to our church please give your name to Mrs. Stott.

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QUESTION!

Why do we keep going to Todmorden Park?

ANSWER!

Because it seems to be the only opportunity in the year that the children have of going on a TRAIN.

MEET on Littleborough Station at 1.20 p.m.
on 11th August

Everybody invited!

PLEASE BRING: Your own sandwiches and flasks
"POP" is usually available in the park.

AND your swimming togs, because there is now an indoor Swimming Baths in Todmorden Park.

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TIME GOES BY

Once again it's time to choose your Christmas Cards and Gifts at the COFFEE EVENING on:

Tuesday, 21st August at 7.30 p.m.
Coffee and Biscuits 5p.

It would simplify matters considerably if as many people as possible would get their orders in on the night.

Proceeds for the Young People's Stall (Autumn Fair) ROLL UP!

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QUOTE

A PESSIMIST sees only the dark side of the clouds, and mopes; a PHILOSOPHER sees both sides, and shrugs; an OPTIMIST doesn't see the clouds at all - he's walking on them.

## CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

### FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 5 | Counc. I. Royle | Counc. J. Harrison |
| 12 | Mr. J. Collins | Mrs. A. Collins |
| 19 | Mrs. J. Duffy | Mrs. F. Rae |
| 26 | Mr. A. Bruckshaw | Mrs. A. Baines |
| Sept. 2 | Mr. G. Buckley | Mr. A. Rae |

| ELDERS ROTA<br>EVENING DOOR STEWARDS | | PIANIST/ORGANIST<br>EVENING WORSHIP |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 9 | Mr. B. Clough | Mr. D. Logan |
| 12 | Mr. R. Gillon | Mr. J. Emmott |
| 19 | Mr. J. Wild | Mrs. C. Hey |
| 26 | Mrs. N. Settle | Mr. D. Logan |
| Sept. 2 | No Evening Service | |

### COMMUNION ROTA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 5 | Mr. A. Roberts | Mr. R. Gillon |
| Sept. 9 | Miss M. Wood | Mr. J. Wild |

### FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 5 | Mrs. C. Hey | Mrs. M. Mellor |
| 12 | Mrs. J. Cudworth | Mrs. N. Settle |
| 19 | Mrs. E. Busill | Miss I. Tither |
| 26 | Mrs. H. Buckley | Mrs. E. Smith |
| Sept. 2 | Miss M. Wood | Miss A. Clegg |

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

## CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

### DOOR STEWARDS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 5 | Mr. Nairn | Mr. Barker |
| | 12 | 10.30 am. Mrs. Stott | Mr. J. Hill |
| | | 6.00 pm. Mr. E. Holt | Mr. F. Ingham |
| | 19 | Mr. Beattie | Mr. Nairn |
| | 26 | Mr. H.N.Hill | Mrs. Crossley |
| Sept. | 2 | Church Closed | |
| | 9 | 10.30 am. Mr. J. Holt | Mr. B. Hill |
| | | 6.00 pm. Mr. J. Lord | Mr. E. Holt |

### ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 12 | 6.00 pm. Mr. J. Lord | Mr. W. Barker |
| | 26 | 10.30 am. Mr. F. Ingham | Mr. J. Nairn |

### COFFEE ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 5 | S. Moss | B. Hartley |
| | 12 | B. Holt | A. Merrick |
| | 19 | J. Allison | J. Law |
| | 26 | W. Spinks | J. Law |
| Sept. | 2 | Holiday | |
| | 9 | J. Simpson | E. Crawford |

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### FAMILY CHURCH READINGS: Details on Page 4

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Readers: | Aug. 5 | Martin Law |
| | 12 | Carl Mallinson |
| | 19 | Mrs. Lightfoot |
| | 26 | Mr. S. Moss |
| | Sept. 2 | Holidays |
| | 9 | Mrs. Vincent |

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## ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **August** | | |
| Sun. 5th | 11.00 am. | Mr. A. Roberts (Sacrament of Baptism) |
| | 6.00 pm. | Mrs. E. Gillon (Service of Word & Sacrament) |
| Tues. 7th | 7.30 pm. | Women's Guild: Counc.W.S.Edwards |
| Wed. 8th | 7.30 pm. | Elders Meeting |
| Sun. 12th | 11.00 am. | To be announced |
| | 6.00 pm. | Rev. R.A.C. West M.A. (Induction/Ordination of Miss M. Wood as Elder and Reception of New Church Members.) |
| Tues.14th | | Efforts Committee Meeting |
| Sun. 19th | 11.00 am. | Mr. T. Wright |
| | 6.00 pm. | " |
| Sun. 26th | 11.00 am. | Mrs. B. Evans |
| | 6.00 pm. | Mr. W. Caffrey |
| Tues.28th | 7.30 pm. | Junior Church Staff Meeting at 6 Ladyhouse Close |
| **September** | | |
| Sun. 2nd | 11.00 am. | Mr. N. Prince |
| | | No Evening Service |

## COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 5th | Mrs. N. Settle | Mrs. J. Harrison |
| 12th | Mrs. E. McDermott | Mrs. C. Wilkinson |
| 19th | Mrs. R. Wolfenden | Mrs. P. Staff |
| 26th | Mrs. A. Collins | Mrs. R. Sandham |
| Sept. 2nd | Mrs. A. Whitworth | |

## OFFERTORIES

| | Cash | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | am. | pm. | Envelopes | Total |
| May | £11.84½ | £4.79½ | £47.62 | £64.26 |
| June | £10.36½ | £4.55 | £54.57½ | £69.49 |

## LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

August

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wed. | 1st | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sun. | 5th | 10.30 am. | Mrs. M. Jeffrey |
| Tues. | 7th | 8.30 am. | Guild Trip to Bridlington |
| Wed. | 8th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sat. | 11th | 1.20 pm. | at Littleborough Station for Family Church Picnic to Todmorden Park. |
| Sun. | 12th | 10.30 am. | Mr. Jackson |
| | | 6.00 pm. | Mr. D. Nuttall (Communion) |
| Wed. | 15th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sun. | 19th | 10.30 am. | Mr. J. Lord |
| Tues. | 21st | 7.30 pm. | Coffee Evening: Preview of Christmas Cards |
| Wed. | 22nd | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sun. | 26th | 10.30 am. | Mr. T. Wright (Communion) |
| Tues. | 28th | 7.30 pm. | Women's Guild: Birthday Supper |
| Wed. | 29th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |

September

Sun. 2nd. Church Closed for holidays

## FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 5th | Mrs. D. Leach |
| | 12th | Mrs. H.N. Hill |
| | 19th | Mrs. M.G. Hill |
| | 26th | Mrs. Lightfoot |
| Sept. | 2nd | Holidays |
| | 9th | Mrs. Holt & Mrs. Cockcroft. |

## OFFERTORIES

| May | Cash | Envelopes | June | Cash | Envelopes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6th | 1.89 | 8.87 | 3rd | 1.82 | 8.92 |
| 13th | 3.09 | 11.50 | 10th | 80 | 12.20 |
| 20th | 1.52½ | 10.22½ | 17th | 2.94 | 9.33 |
| 27th | 1.34½ | 7.69½ | 24th | Holiday | |
| | | | July 1st | " | |

## CHURCH SECRETARIES:

### MILNROW

Mr. Allan Roberts,
54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

### LITTLEBOROUGH

Mr. F.G. Simpson,
121 Calderbrook Road,
Littleborough.
Tel: 061 834 4402
(Business)

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## MESSENGER EDITOR:

Counc. Ian Royle B.Sc. (Econ.),
24 Ladyhouse Close,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

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## HOSPITAL VISITORS

MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory

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